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Docket No. HOE96/F319CON

JUL 17 2008

PATENT

OK TO ENTER: /DSM/

07/31/2008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Schwertfeger et al. Examiner: Daniel S. Metzmaier
Application No.: 09/817,459 Art Unit: 1796
Filed: March 26, 2001 Confirmation No.: 1602
For: **Organically Modified Aerogels; Method for their Production by
Surface Modification of the Aqueous Gel Without Previous Solvent
Exchange and Subsequent Drying and the Use Thereof**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed April 17, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are included in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this response.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.